

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAB-01

SAM-01 (ISO) W

----- 023443

O R 111512Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5344

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 168

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMBAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
USUN NEW YORK 1699
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR ET
SUBJECT: ERITREA: MOFA PRESS RELEASE

REF: JIDDA 4829

THERE FOLLOWS FULL TEXT OF SUBJECT MOFA PRESS RELEASE BROADCAST IN
AMHARIC AND ENGLISH OVER RADIO ETHIOPIA AT 1330 HOURS AND 1400 HOURS
LOCAL JUNE 11.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED QUOTE: THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HAS COME TO LEARN THAT AN EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO PLACE THE
ERITREAN PROBLEM BEFORE THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE OF ISLAMIC STATES
DUE TO CONVENE ON 12 JULY 1975 IN JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA.

IF THIS EFFORT SUCCEEDS AND IF INDEED THE CONFERENCE CONSIDERS
THIS QUESTION UNDER ONE GUISE OR ANOTHER THE PMG WOULD REGARD IT AS
A GROSS INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ETHIOPIA. UNDER
ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PRACTICE, NO CONFERENCE OF STATES
CAN ARROGATE TO ITSELF THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS
OF ANOTHER STATE BY DISCUSSING WITHOUT ITS CONSENT A MATTER THAT
PERTAINS TO ITS INTERNAL ORDER.

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THE ERITREAN PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF RELIGION, AFFECTING A GROUP
OF PERSONS BELONGVNG TO ONE FAITH AS OPPOSED TO ANOTHER. NEITHER
IS THE ERITREAN PROBLEM ONE THAT PITS ONE NATIONAL GROUP AGAINST
ANOTHER. THE ERITREAN PROBLEM HAS ITS ROOT IN THE COLONIAL HISTORY
OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL HOMELAND. THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF COLONIAL RULE FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS IN THIS PART
HAD IMPLANTED THE SEED OF SUBSEQUENT DISSENTION. FEUDAL RULE HAD
ALSO COMPOUNDED THE PROBLEM AS IT HAD EXASPERATED SOCIAL PROBLEMS

IN ALL PARTS OF ETHIOPIA.

THE PMG OF ETHIOPIA HAS GIVEN AMPLE DEMONSTRATION OF ITS INTENTIONS TO BRING ABOUT CONDITIONS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND COOPERATIVE ENDEAVORS. THE PMG BELIEVES THAT THE ONLY SOLUTION THAT CAN BE JUST AND DURABLE FOR THE ERITREAN PROBLEM IS FOR ALL SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ETHIOPIA, WHEREVER THEY MAY BE, TO STAND SHOULDER TO SHOULDER IN BUILDING A NEW ETHIOPIA -- AN ETHIOPIA WHICH REFLECTS THE ASPIRATIONS AND THE HOPES OF ITS PEOPLE. THE PMG HAS ALREADY ISSUED AN APPEAL TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE TAKEN UP ARMS AGAINST THE HISTORIC UNITY OF THE COUNTRY TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AND JOIN THEIR COMPATRIOTS IN THE PEACEFUL PURSUIT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EDIFICATION OF THE ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE.

ETHIOPIA CANNOT, THEREFORE, RECOGNIZE THE COMPETENCE OF ANY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE ERITREAN PROBLEM. EXCEPT FOR THE BRIEF INTERLUDE OF ALIEN RULE, ERITREA HAS ALWAYS FORMED AN INTEGRAL PART OF ETHIOPIA. BY THE UNITED WILL OF THE ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE NO OUTSIDE FORCE, HOWEVER, ARROGANT, CAN DESTROY THEIR HISTORIC UNITY BY CHARTING OUT A SEPARATE DESTINY FOR ERITREA. SINCE MOST PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONFERENCES ARE STATES WITH WHICH ETHIOPIA ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS BOTH WITHIN THE UN AND THE OAU, AS WELL AS THROUGH BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION, THE PMG WOULD CONSIDER A DECISION BY ANY OF THEM TO DISCUSS AT THE CONFERENCE THE ERITREAN PROBLEM AS AN ACT WHOLLY INCONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS. END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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COMMENT: FOR JIDDA: ETHIOPIANS LEARNED OF INCLUSION ERITREAN PROBLEM ON AGENDA OF ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING THROUGH THEIR EMBASSY IN JIDDA. END COMMENT.
HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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